

**Virginia State Board of Education  
Literacy Committee  
October 24, 2006  
4 p.m. – 5 p.m.  
Jefferson Meeting Room, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
James Monroe Building  
Richmond, Virginia**

**Members Present:** Mrs. Isis M. Castro, Chair; Dr. Thomas M. Brewster, Vice Chair; Dr. Mark E. Emblidge; Mr. Kelvin A. Moore; Mrs. Eleanor B. Saslaw; Dr. Ella P. Ward; Dr. Billy K. Cannaday, Jr.

**Purpose of Committee:** To focus on increasing literacy among Virginia's school children and strengthening literacy programs for adult learners.

**Summary of Committee Meeting:**

1. Welcome from Mrs. Castro
2. Future Topics: Update on LEP Research Study; Addendum to LEP Research Study and Update on ELP Standards; Adolescent Literacy; High School and Adult Literacy; Committee Results and Recommendations to the Board of Education at the April 2007 meeting
3. An update on kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading performance on Standards of Learning (SOL) assessments in Virginia and available interventions was presented.
  - a. Standards of Learning (SOL) reading results for third grade students in the following categories: all students, male/female, and subgroups were presented.
  - b. Interventions available for getting children ready to read as listed below were presented.
    - Virginia's Early Intervention Reading Initiative (EIRI)
    - Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS)
    - Reading First
4. Successful practices
  - a. A panel discussion highlighting best practices for at-risk populations was conducted.
  - b. Panelists: Ms. Lucretia Jackson, Principal  
Ms. Suzanne Lank, Literacy Coach  
Maury Elementary School  
Alexandria City Public Schools  
  
Mr. Ed Walent, Principal  
Chalkley Elementary School

Chesterfield County Public Schools  
Mrs. Carolyn Baker, Director of Federal Programs  
Charlotte County Public Schools

- c. Panelists described the following for their school or division.
  - The at-risk populations they serve and any unique characteristics.
  - The traits their teachers exhibit to be effective with at-risk populations.
  - Specialized training the staff has received that has been beneficial in increasing the academic performance of the at-risk population.
  - The role they play as a leader.
  - One final initiative they would implement to improve the academic performance of your students.

5. Next meeting November 28, 2006, from 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.